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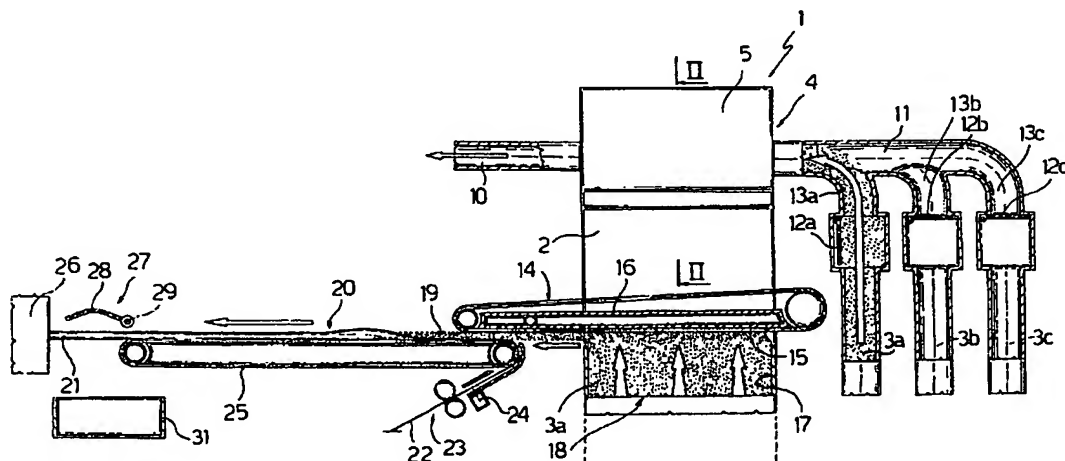
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(54) Title: PRODUCT CHANGE METHOD FOR A CIGARETTE MANUFACTURING MACHINE



(57) Abstract: A product change method for a cigarette manufacturing machine (1), wherein an input hopper (2) receives a first type (3a) of shredded tobacco from a supply header (4), and feeds it to at least one channel (17) for forming, on a conveyor (14), a bead (19) of tobacco, which is released onto a paper strip (22) travelling along a forming table (20) for forming a continuous cigarette rod (21); the method provides for cutting off supply of the first type (3a) of shredded tobacco to the header (4), emptying the header (4), cutting off communication between the header (4) and the input hopper (2), cutting off supply of the paper strip 15 (22), keeping the manufacturing machine (1) running to form a waste stream (30) of shredded tobacco of the first type (3a) and empty the manufacturing machine (1), and feeding a second type (3b) of shredded tobacco through the supply header (4) and the input hopper (2) to fill the manufacturing machine (1) completely before starting up supply of the paper strip (22).

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
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## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	GB 952 077 A (IAN MELVILLE CLARK M A) 11 March 1964 (1964-03-11) figure 1	1
A	US 4 756 315 A (BELVEDERI BRUNO ET AL) 12 July 1988 (1988-07-12) figure 1	1
A	GB 2 088 693 A (SASIB SPA) 16 June 1982 (1982-06-16) abstract	1

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☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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